

Vol. 9 No. 2 - 1995

A Publication of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association

That Was Then



This Is Now



To get your new set of stickers for your mountain bike and your car send \$1.00 and a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) to cover the cost of printing and mailing the new stickers to **MMBA, P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306**. If you join or renew after September 1 1995, you'll be sent the new stickers with your 1995-96 membership packet.

The new logo was designed by Jay Jones, our Pontiac Lake Chapter President. The new logo was chosen by the MMBA State Board (your chapter presidents). Once again, thank you to all those who submitted ideas for a new logo and congratulations to Jay Jones, for the cool new MMBA logo design...!

Hey,
am I
getting all
the info
and
paper stuff
the
MMBA
sends me
in the
mail?

The Bent Rim Bugle comes out 4 times a year (February to February) so you should get 4 (14 to 28 page mags. about what is going on in Michigan and the region in terms of mountain biking, racing, land access and forest preservation).

You should also receive 4 - two page MMBA Up-dates of late breaking info on trail maintenance, races and general info. IF THE STATE BUDGET PERMITS. This year the cost of postage went up for both regular mail and bulk mail about 10%.

Even with an increase in membership dues of 10% to cover the postage increase it fell short due to increase in other office related expenses (phone/gas/land access related contacts and

information mailings). This affected the publication of the July/August Update. The state didn't have enough money to send it out. You're getting your next issue of the BRB instead.

Your local chapter may use the money it gets from your membership to put out a publication or post-card, also (if they can find a volunteer in the chapter who will write and mail it instead of ride). Some chapters put out a post card every month, other chapters every other month or so.

Your Chapter Presidents get an update from the Executive Director every month also, sometimes twice. If you talk to your Chapter President he or she will have info on what is going on behind the scenes that directly affects the trail to love to ride.

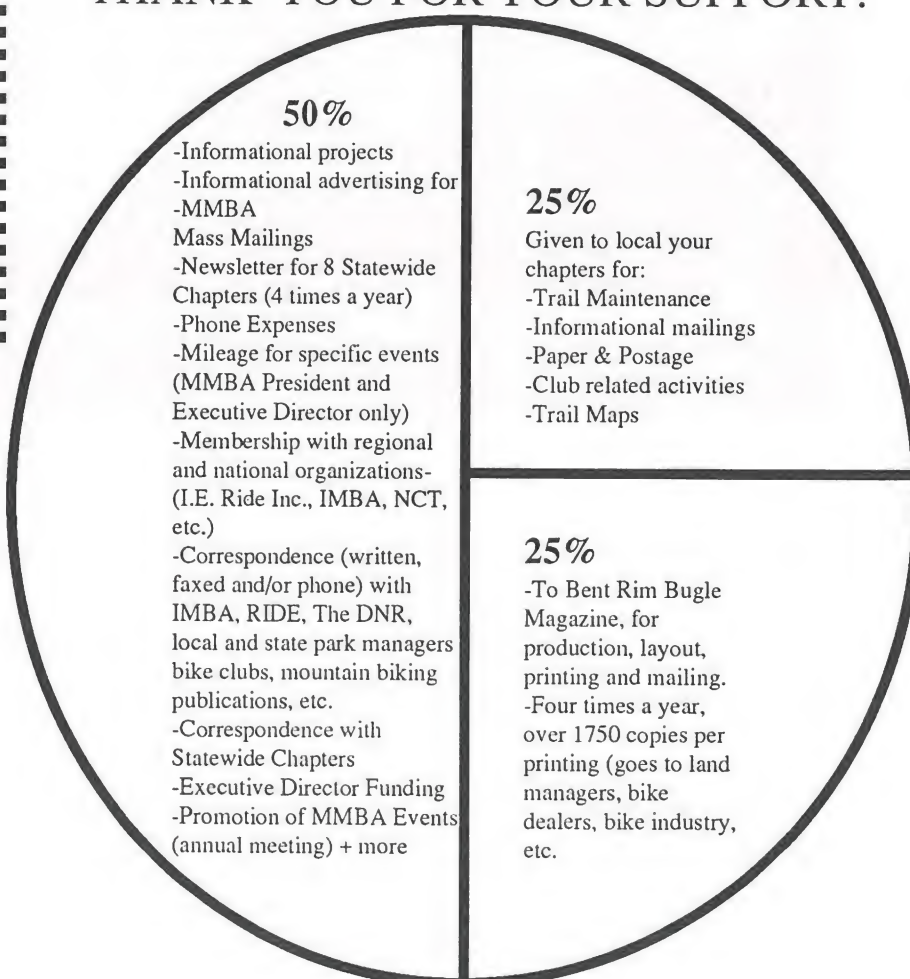
If you move (the MMBA has a lot of student and mobile individuals and families) without letting us know in

advance we'll change your address when it is returned to us but it costs the MMBA about \$0.29 cent to find where the heck you are from the post office. Last year change of addresses amounted to over one hundred dollars. You also missed getting the info or mag. that was sent out because the post office just rips out old addresses and sends it back to the MMBA along with the new one and throws the rest away.

If the volunteers can be found to collect and compile mountain biking land access info, dates and stories then you'll get 4 BRB's/4 MMBA Updates and info from your local chapter are from about February to February of each riding season.

There is always room for help, on the trails and doing the "book" work, so to say.

MMBA EXPENSE ALLOCATION OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW....

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SOUTHWEST: Kristopher Ouvry (616) 731-4009
UPPER PENN. CONTACT: Jack McHugh (906) 428-4710

MEMBERSHIP:

Robin Scurr (810) 363-6089

MMBA CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS SERIES:

Lori Hescheles (810) 231-2506

WHAT THE MMBA NEEDS TO SERVE YOU BETTER:

1. Each chapter needs a member to print and mail a postcard once a month to local members, listing Chapter related MMBA activities.
2. The MMBA needs people to attend MMBA Points Series Races to sign up members, take questions and forward them to appropriate MMBA officers, and to talk about what the MMBA does and has done.
3. Not a month and in some cases, not a week goes by where there is not an MMBA trail maintenance activity going on somewhere in our state. Look at the calendar on page 9 or call the numbers above and get involved. Your riding depends on it!



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Thunder In Winter®

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Music Provided By

Keb Mo - " Just a City Boy Looking for a Home" cut

Jimmy Buffett- Barometer Song

Blues Travelers - "Run Around" cut

Material Provided By

"Our Mother Earth"

Use them wisely and recycle.

This magazine is printed on recycled paper.

I always turn to the sports pages first, which record
people's accomplishments. The front page has
nothing but man's failures. Earl Warren

Infra-red, Magnetic-Ion, Demographic Stablization, Retro-reConitaive, Computer Assisted, Distribution, Hyper-sensitoid, Do-what-ya-ma-hicky Study...

Better known as an informational Study of Wisconsin Trail Is Taking Place....

The Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA), in conjunction with the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, the University of Wisconsin-Extension and IMBA has begun a study of the impact of mountain biking on the Chequamegon area. The study will measure the number of visitors to the area using the CAMBA mountain bike trails by installing infra-red trail counters along selected trails in the 300 mile CAMBA system. "This will help us determine how many people are actually using the trails," states CAMBA executive director Ron Bergin. "Up to now we have only been able to observe how many cars there are in parking lots. This will give us a much more accurate picture of trail use," he adds.

The CAMBA trails have been tremendously well received by mountain bikers from around the Midwest and the country. Except for the Fat Tire Festival, mountain biking had been a minor part of the area's recreational offerings. The development of the CAMBA trails has added a major component to the area's recreational complexion.

The balance of the survey will be to assess the economic impact of mountain biking. It will be conducted in two phases. A short survey will be distributed at area chambers of commerce, bike shops, lodging facilities, trail heads, and other places frequented by mountain bikers.

Completed surveys will provide information about where bikers come from, how many in their party, age, sex and other demographic information as well as how much they spend while in the area. A more detailed survey will be mailed to those who indicate their willingness to participate in the phase of the study. The study is funded through a grant for the U.S. Forest Service and the Chequamegon National Forest-Hayward Ranger District.

"We know that mountain biking is making an impact," Bergin states, "but we have no idea of how much. This will also help us establish a base-line from which to compare economic impact in the future."

Any area businesses wishing to assist in the study by distributing survey forms should contact CAMBA at 715-798-3599.

"...The balance of the survey will be to assess the economic impact of mountain biking..."

BENT RIM BUGLE PUBLISHING INFO

The Bent Rim Bugle (BRB) is published 4 times a year (quarterly) Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. The BRB is the source for news and information for the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA). Articles come from MMBA members, MMBA Chapter Presidents, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and other sources. The focus of the BRB is on what is of interest to MMBA members as well as environmental issues, land access, mountain biking events, rides, competition, fun and other activities and information related to the mountain biking.

Editorial contributions and photos are welcomed, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by proper postage. Send contributions to: MMBA/BRB P.O. Box 29, Belmont MI 49306. The BRB also can provide classified ads to MMBA members for free and advertising space to shops and manufactures. For deadlines and rates contact the address above or call, (616) 785-0120 or AOL E-Mail: Go MMBA@aol.com. (Net: Go_MMBA@aol.com)

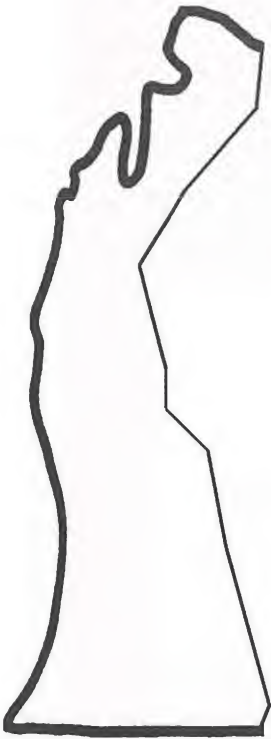
Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the MMBA, Publisher, and/or MMBA members, Dealers, or Sponsors. In other words, lighten-up it's mountain biking not world hunger... Copyright, Sept. 1995, all rights reserved. reserved..blah, blah...

North Country Trail Up-date By Doug Nelson Statewide MMBA Campaign Reaches Final Chapter -

A decision on the designation of the North Country Trail is due in early January, according to John Hojnowski, team leader of the Huron/Manistee USFS Interdisciplinary Team. The team, headquartered at the Manistee Ranger District office, has been studying the issue of mountain bikes on NCT, one of the Midwest's premier trails. During a scoping phase, running from late May until July 15, the USFS accepted input from all interested parties. The MMBA's Northern Chapter initiated a statewide campaign of letter writing to the Manistee team in an effort to keep the NCT open to responsible mountain biking. On several other occasions, Northern Chapter representative met with USFS personnel to ride the NCT and discuss the issues surrounding the alleged controversy between off-road bicyclists and hikers.

On July 24 in Cadillac, the Interdisciplinary Team unveiled the

(North, cont. on pg. 10)



North Country Fifty Mile Challenge!!

By Dennis Bean-Larson (Northern Chapter MMBA) Kingsley MI

On Sunday August 27, several MMBA members rode the North Country Trail from Baxter Bridge to High Bridge totalling 51.2 miles. Ed Anders, Dennis Bean-Larson, Pat Hall, Ross Hickman, Dave Morris & Dennis Murphy have dreamed up another challenge for riders who just can't get enough single track. While we had ridden some portions of the Trail before, there were several sections that to our knowledge no mountain bikers had ever ridden. Studying the map led us to believe the route would likely be around 50 miles. Estimates of riding time varied from 12 hours to "you guys are crazy." All of our group are veterans of the National 24 Hour Challenge in Grand Rapids, with everyone having completed either a double or triple century on the road. Several in this group also completed "The assault on Mt. Mitchell" this last May in South Carolina, so we were confident that we could stay in the saddle long enough...it might not be pretty, but we had to get to the only car at High Bridge.

The group started at 7:33 AM from the Baxter Bridge parking lot following the North Country Trail westward. Dennis had dropped off water at intervals, and there was a cooler with food near the crossing at Beers Road which we estimated at 30 miles.

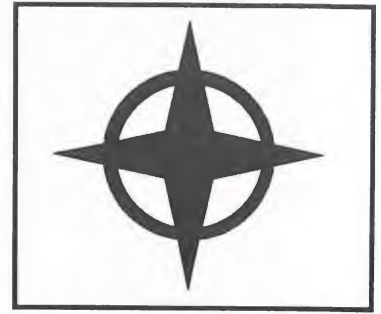
The first 13 mile section from Baxter Bridge to Harvey Bridge is 13 miles of very technical single track that has been formally adopted by the Northern Region of the MMBA and we're planning some work sessions this fall. Despite the incredible views to the south, riders have to ride carefully or just stop and gawk every once in awhile for the first hour or you're likely to do face inspection of the trail or a tree or two. You're guaranteed to peg out your heart rate in the first 15 minutes, and there's many miles to go.

Despite missing the blue trail marks a few times, a couple minor repairs, and many calories burned, we

arrived at High Bridge at 4:32 PM, everyone together, tired for sure, but still incredibly exhilarated at the distance we'd covered and the fact that we had seen only a couple of homes, ridden 50 continuous miles of 90% single track and crossed only 6 paved roads all day.

Our time was 9 hours, our distance 51.2 miles, however, at no time was there a challenge in having fun. If you want to take the Challenge, call me at (616) 263-7383 and I'll fax you a map.

The riding is up to you.



Studying the map led us to believe the route would likely be around 50 miles. Estimates of riding time varied from 12 hours to "you guys are crazy."

MMBA Responsibility Code

1. Always yield the right of way to other trail users.
2. Slow down and pass with care (or stop).
3. Control your speed at all times.
4. Stay on designated trails
5. Don't disturb wildlife or livestock.
6. Pack out litter.
7. Respect public and private property.
8. Know local rules.
9. Plan ahead.
10. Avoid riding in large groups.
11. Minimize impact.
12. Report incidents of trail impasse to local park authorities.

Long Island Fire Burns Up NCT Trail Maintenance Project

The trail maintenance project that was scheduled for late August with the National Forest Service for the M-20 portion of the North Country Trail had to be cancelled. The cancellation was due to forest service personnel being called to battle the Long Island fire.

Materials and plans had been developed by members of the MMBA, North Country Trail and National Forest Service to do some maintenance on sections of the trail that had been neglected too long.

The maintenance date is being rescheduled and all you have to do is call one of these numbers to get involved: National Forest Service at 616-745-4631 / John Haffenden 616-455-9450 / Spoke and Gear (Frank Bower) 616-796-4122.

FREE FIFTY STUFF!

It's First to Respond. First Choice, so get moving and make your selection (mark first choice - 1, second choice - 2, etc...)

- ☐ Cool Tool
- ☐ Optek Sunglasses
- ☐ Cannondale Seat Pack
- ☐ Trak Pak

Remember this from the last BRB? Well, the deal is things didn't go like we had planned. So when you have a plan and it doesn't work, always have a back-up plan...that way you can go out and ride, because you have a back up plan...

Oh, well. If you are a member and you send me just 1 new member on a first come first serve basis you will receive one of the following: a Cool Tool, Sunglasses, Trak Pak or just added to the list Cannondale seat packs. The MMBA received about 30 of them.

So, it's this simple (use the form below or write it on the back of a carbo-bar wrapper...):

1. You're a member.
2. Sign up a (1) new member.
3. You send your name, the new member's info and membership \$ to the BRB editorial office and you will win a prize* Send it to:
MMBA P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306.

Sign up a bike shop or Manufacturer who has not been a member in the past and get one of each reward! (a Cool Tool/Optek sunglasses/Trak Pak/Cannondale Seat Pack and more...)

Free Stuff Membership - Official Form

New Member is:

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCAL CHAPTER AFFILIATION:

- ☐ MID-MICHIGAN (517) 349-4683
- ☐ POTO (313) 663-3113
- ☐ SOUTHEAST (810) 542-4236
- ☐ PONTIAC LAKE (810) 627-5712
- ☐ WESTERN MICH. (616) 455-9460
- ☐ NORTHERN MICH. (616) 775-0154
- ☐ HOLLY/FLINT (810) 634-5820
- ☐ UPPER PENN. CONTACT (906) 428-4710
- ☐ NORTHEAST (517) 631-2608
- ☐ SOUTHWEST (616) 731-4009

PHONE
NUMBER(S) _____

POINTS SERIES ENTRY

Racing in the MMBA Championship Points Series? Add \$5.00 per rider in the Points Series to the regular membership fee and complete the following:

Riders Name(s) _____ *Birth Date(s) _____ **Racing Class(s) _____

*THIS MUST BE FILLED OUT TO RACE IN THE MMBA POINTS SERIES

**From the following: Beginner, Sport, Expert, Elite

***PRINT YOUR NAME: The new member ON THIS FORM was solicited by _____

Individual \$22.00 Family \$27.50

Shop Basic \$110.00

*If you send an additional \$2.00 to cover the mailing cost of sending you your prize it would go a long way in helping the MMBA make it's budget this year...but most importantly ...please sign up one new member!

Please Print Clearly!

Sign up one member and win a, Cool Tool, Sunglasses, Cannondale Seat Pack, or a Trak Pak.

1. You're a member.
 2. Sign up one (1) (uno) (the lonely number) new member and get a prize.
- Send your name, new member's info and money to: MMBA

P.O. Box 29 Belmont MI 49306.

Do it as many times as you like, first come - first served till all the prizes are gone. Over 25 Cool Tools, 25 pairs of Opteks, 30 Cannondale seat packs, 150 Trak Paks and more... The only way you'll lose is if you snooze....*\$2.00 postage will help us to send you your swagg and meet our budget, but is not obligatory. Just sign up a new member. There is power in numbers. You know as well as I do that you can ride all day and not be seen or heard, the only way you'll count is if you count yourself as a member of the MMBA.

See page six now!

Sign up a bike shop or Manufacturer who has not been a member in the past and get one of each!

Sign up a bike shop or Manufacturer who has not been a member in the past and get one of each reward!

Friends Of Bald Mountain

Dear Friends:

You would think that with passage of Proposal P, it would be clear that Michigan citizens want State Parks to be protected and even improved. Unfortunately, we are being confronted with a request to give away an estimated 45 acres of Bald Mountain Recreation Area. This request was made by Orion Township. Orion Township is asking for the property so that they may add on to their existing park. This would allow them to add additional ball fields, a soccer field, new rest-rooms, playground equipment, tennis courts, etc. When they found out that the state would not just "give it away" they offered a 42 acre open landfill in exchange. This land fill is the same one that Oakland County Health Department tried to get closed in the late 60's and early 70's. Orion Township never did install a proper cap as required. Now they are telling the state that this is a valuable piece of property!

We need to ask the question, "Can we afford to lose any state recreation land in Michigan?" We, the Friends of Bald Mountain Recreation Area, do not want to see any loss of land at any recreation area. Unless Orion Township can offer some other land that will enhance Bald Mountain Recreation Area, for all state residents, the exchange should be vigorously fought. If the transfer were to be approved, the State Parks Division will end up paying for the cleanup costs of any illegally operated, failed landfill. We believe that such costs should be paid for by the parties responsible for the contamination.

There are several agencies and each have to approve the transfer before it becomes final. The first level of decision making will take place in September. Please see the attached list of contact people and agencies to send your comments to. They need to know that there is strong support for Michigan State Parks.

Thank you for your support,
John Griffiths,
Chairman, Friends of Bald Mountain

Suggested letter - copy or para-phrase, sign and send to the addresses below!

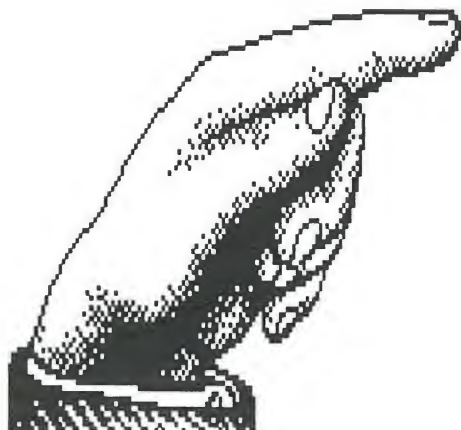
Dear

In August 1994, Orion Township in Oakland County made a formal request to the DNR for a lease or exchange of property within the boundaries of Bald Mountain Recreation Area. The property Orion Township wants is a 45 acre plot south of Greenshield Road and east of the abandoned Grand Trunk Western Railroad. This plot is surrounded on three sides by park lands. Orion Township has offered the DNR, in exchange, a 42 acre abandoned dump on Kern Road. It has not been determined if this dump site is environmentally safe.

This land exchange or transfer will be reviewed and acted on by the DNR Land Transfer Review committee headed by Rodney Stokes, Chief of Real Estate, in Lansing.

With the passage of Proposal P last fall, you would think it would be clear that the public wants state parks to be enhanced and supported. Please oppose this intrusion into Bald Mountain recreation Area that would create a 45 acre in-holding.

Sincerely,



Write / Fax to:

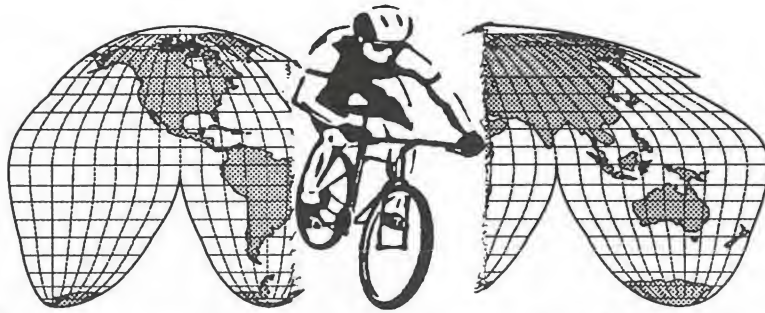
O.J. Scherschligt, Chief
Parks & Recreation Division
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909
Fax: 517-373-6705

Rodney Stokes, Chief
Real Estate Division
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909
Fax: 517-373-3264

Roland Harmes, Director
Department of Natural Resources
Mason Building-Seventh Floor
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909

Lawrence A. Obrecht
Oakland county Commissioner
1437 Nakomis
Lake Orion, MI 48362

Hector Chiunti
Recreation Services/State Forests
P.O. Box 330028
Lansing, MI 48909
Fax: 517-373-2443



International Dirt - IMBA Info

an earlier manual. According to Tim Blumenthal, IMBA's executive director it is in response to a lot of people asking questions and requesting information about trail design, maintenance and trail standards. The book attempts to meet those needs. The guide book includes sections on IMBA's philosophy, how to plan trails, designs, construction and maintenance thereof. To get a copy (\$28.00) contact...

IMBA P.O. Box 7578, Boulder CO 80306-7578
Phone: 303-545-9011 (fax) 303-545-9026
E-Mail: imba@aol.com

From Around the Region: RIDE/SRAM/CABDA Work To Keep Trails Open

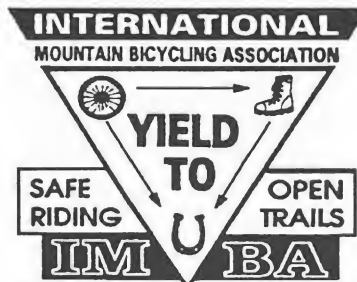
CABDA and the SRAM (Grip Shift) are supporting efforts to keep trails near Chicago open. SRAM has given a \$5,000 grant to Recreation for Individuals Dedicated to the Environment (RIDE), a local advocacy group. CABDA is matching donations from area retailers. Although the Chicago area is home to about 7 million people, there are large areas of undeveloped land. Cook County, which encompasses Chicago, has forest preserves with more than 300 miles of trails, according to Carl Birkelbach (RIDE's president and IMBA board member). A moratorium on bicycling was proposed in March, but the threat galvanized area cyclists. More than 20,000 signatures were collected supporting multi-use trails. The group is asking cyclists to donate \$5.00 which local dealers, CABDA and SRAM will match. RIDE hopes to raise \$25,000.00 with the plan. Cook County has yet to make a final decision on trail use. Source: *Bicycle Industry News*

short-sighted. Ninety-five percent of bicycling takes place on land controlled by a public agency and the industry turns its back on the whole process...if the industry wants more paths, it needs to do more than stay on the sidelines. If the bicycle industry doesn't actively demonstrate interest in these programs, why should government officials take us seriously..."

From an article by Greg Hill appearing in the September 1 issue of Bicycle Retailer & Industry News. An interview with Bill Wilkinson the Bicycle Federation of America's Executive Director. For a complete copy of the article contact the MMBA at 616-785-0120.

IMBA Trail Development Book Available

Development & Construction for Mountain Bicycling is a new guide to planning, designing, building and maintaining off-road trails. Written by Gary Sprung and Jackie Cope, IMBA staffers, the 300-page guide is for land managers, mountain bike clubs and urban planners. The book is an update for



IMBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

A non-profit, volunteer group. IMBA's goal is to keep public lands open for recreational enjoyment of responsible mountain bicyclists. We publish *IMBA Trail News* as a means of keeping members informed of current issues and events. Donations above \$9 are tax deductible.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PRICES:

___ Basic Membership	\$15
___ Member of Affiliated Club	12
___ Supporting Donation	25
___ Clubs	30
___ Dealers	60 or 150 or 1000
___ Manufacturers	100 or 300 or 1000
___ additional donation for IMBA's programs	

Canada/Mexico add \$5 for mailing. Outside North America add \$10 for mailing.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

Make payment to IMBA; mail to PO Box 412043, Los Angeles, CA 90041.

"...The [bicycle] industry is a no-show,

individually and collectively. In my opinion, the industry has regressed. I have never seen them more out of touch. I can only conclude that advocacy groups are doing too good a job and the industry feels no need to do anything...It's so

Continued from page 4 North Country Trail Update-

five alternatives it will consider in making its final recommendation for the North Country Trail. Michigan's mountain biking community was well represented at the USFS open house with Executive Director, Dwain

Abramowski, Northern Chapter President, Doug Nelson, Northern Chapter Treasurer, Jerry Nilsson, Western Michigan Chapter President, John Haffenden and a few other mountain biking enthusiasts all in attendance to examine the alternatives and present the mountain biking perspective.

The five alternatives presented are as follows:

Alternative 1 - No action.

This alternative would continue the status quo on the NCT, with only tacit approval given to mountain bikes, basically perpetuating the existing confusion as to whether we belong on the NCT or not.

Alternative 2 - Foot travel only.

This alternative is our worst nightmare. It would close the entire 118 miles of NCT in the Manistee National Forest to mountain bikes. When you write to the USFS this autumn, let them know in no uncertain terms that alternative 2 is totally unacceptable.

Alternative 3 - Designated Use. Mountain bikes would be designated as acceptable users of the NCT, with 80.4 miles of the 118 miles open to us. Under this alternative, there would be

no horseback use on any of the 118 miles.

Alternative 4 - Designated Use with Alternate Routes.

This alternative most extensively favors mountain bikers. It would open 106.2 miles of the 118 total mile to biking, as well as provide alternative routes around the two closed sections. Horses would be allowed on 11 miles of the southern most

sections under this alternative. **Alternative 5 - Multiple Use/Non-motorized.** This alternative would open the whole 118 miles to hiking, biking and horses, and would have required extensive changes to the trail to harden it for all non-motorized uses. After the July 24 open house, Alternative 5 was eliminated from "detailed consideration"

"...But the final chapter has yet to be written and needs your input. This is one of the most critical land access issues in the brief history of mountain biking in Michigan...."

Doug Nelson,
Northern Michigan
MMBA Chapt. Pres.

ation" by the team.

The good news is that three of the four existing alternatives would keep the trails open to mountain biking. However, the Northern Chapter is urging the state's mountain bikers to promote adoption of Alternative 4, since it recognizes - finally - mountain bikes as a legitimate form of recreation on the NCT. It also provides alternate routes around the two closed sections. Alternative 3, would be a second best

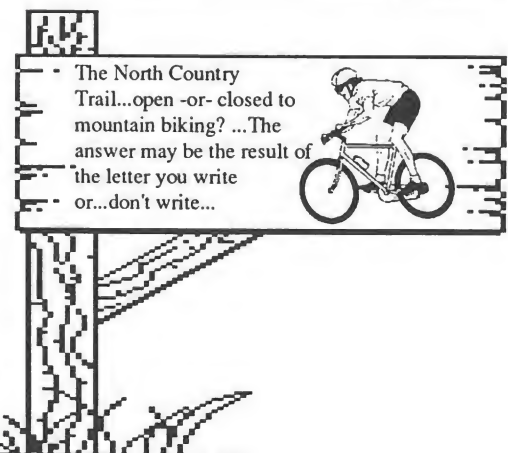
alternative to us, with Alternative 1, a distant third.

The Northern Chapter recognizes the tremendous response of the Michigan's off road cyclists to this issue. But the final chapter has yet to be written and needs your input. This is one of the most critical land access issues in the brief history of mountain biking in Michigan.

The Northern Chapter needs one more favor from every reader of this issue: a card, letter, phone call, or fax to the Manistee Ranger District, urging the approval of Alternative 4 by the Interdisciplinary Team. It need not be a lengthy letter - but be firm in your conviction and let them know, as well, that Alternative 2, would be absolutely unacceptable. We will continue to work to maintain our adopted sections and educate bikers about responsible riding. But only with your help now, will we assure that the NCT stays open to mountain biking.

Write, Phone or Fax:
John Hojnowski
Manistee Ranger District
USFS/Huron Manistee NF
1658 Manistee Highway
Manistee, MI 49660

Phone: 616-723-2211
Fax: 616-723-8642
TTY: 616-723-0124

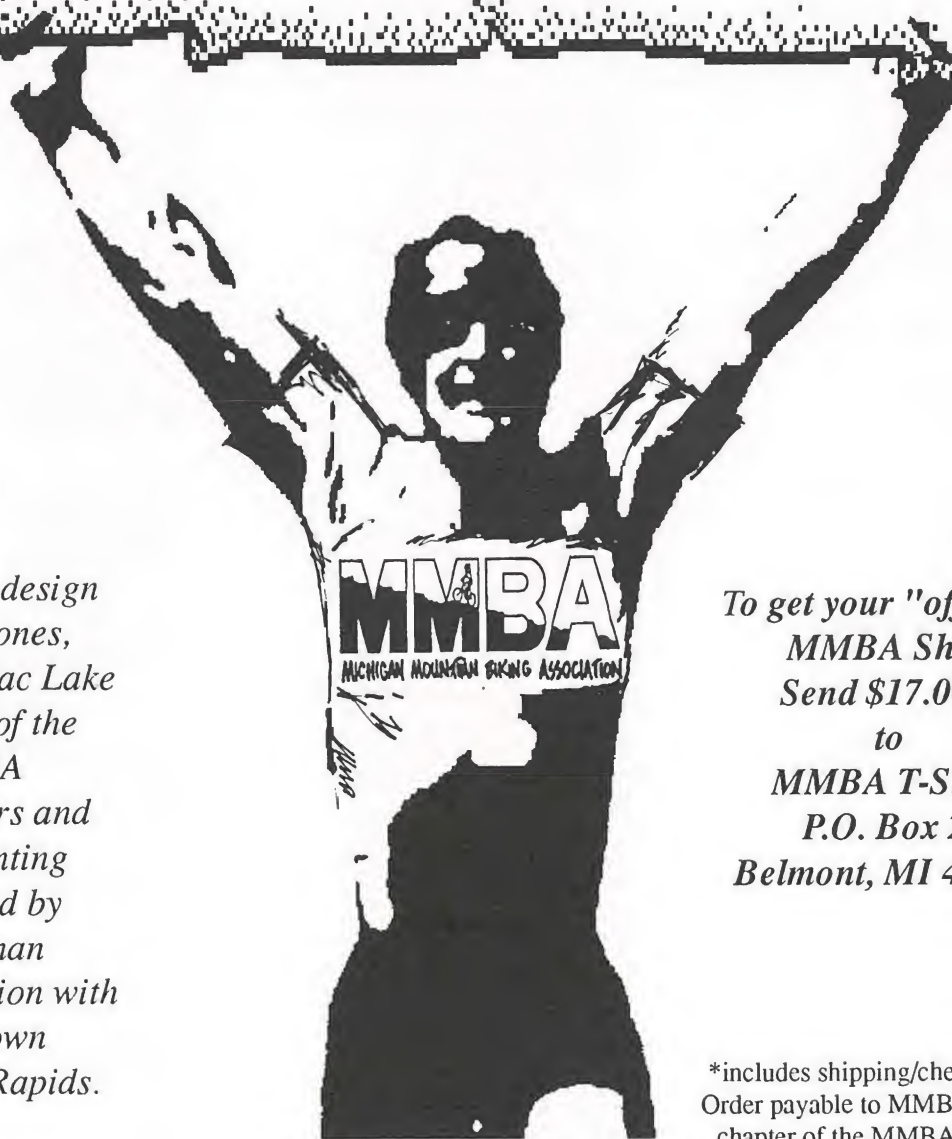


Order Your New MMBA Shirt Today!

With the adoption of our new logo by the Statewide MMBA Board, the MMBA now has an "official" MMBA T-Shirt. The Shirt is made of a high quality cotton fabric. The shirt is an earthy brown color and the logo is printed on the front in a custom color of green. You may have seen the shirt at various MMBA events. Your chapter president has seen it at the MMBA board meetings.

You can order your own by sending \$17.00 (check or money order payable to the MMBA) to MMBA T-Shirt, P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306.

*New Logo design
By Jay Jones,
of the Pontiac Lake
Chapter of the
MMBA
Shirt colors and
logo printing
produced by
Clarkman
in cooperation with
RT Brown
of Grand Rapids.*



*To get your "official"
MMBA Shirt
Send \$17.00 *
to
MMBA T-Shirt
P.O. Box 29
Belmont, MI 49306.*

*includes shipping/check or Money Order payable to MMBA. Your local chapter of the MMBA may have a version of this shirt also - contact your MMBA Chapter President for more info
Phone # on page 3...

MMBA SHOP AND MANUFACTURER MEMBERS

Is Your Shop Here? The shops listed here care about where you ride. Does your shop? **THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Al Petri & Sons, Inc.
Woodhaven, MI
(313)675-5566

Ann Arbor Cyclery
Ann Arbor, MI
(313)761-2749

Big Ralph's Cycling & Fitness
Saint Clair Shores, MI
(810)772-3258

Bike Specialists
Niles, MI
(616)683-3100

Bike USA, Inc.
Bloomfield Hills, MI
(810)646-7565

Breakaway Bicycles Of Kalamazoo
Kalamazoo, MI
(616)349-5555

Brick Wheels
Traverse City, MI
(616)947-4274

Buffalo Bob's Bicycle Repair
Flat Rock, MI
(313)782-1790

Central Park Bicycles
Okemos, MI
(517)349-8880

Chelsea Bike & Sports
Chelsea, MI
(313)475-9371

Cycle Cellar
Ann Arbor, MI
(313)769-1115

D&D Bicycles
Berkley, MI
(810)547-0770

D&D Bicycles
Northville, MI
(810)347-1511

D&D Bicycles
Westland, MI
(313)522-9410

D&D Bicycles
Farmington, MI
(810)851-5588

D&D Bicycles
Dearborn, MI
(313)565-4600

Dan's Bicycle & Lock Shop
Ionia, MI
(616)527-0471

Denny's Cycling & Fitness
Lansing, MI
(517)321-6700

Denny's Cycling & Fitness
East Lansing, MI
(517)351-2000

Denny's Cycling & Fitness
East Lansing, MI
(517)332-8655

Dirt Works, Inc.
Comstock Park, MI
(616)784-0691

Easy Rider Bike Shop
Canton, MI
(313)455-5730

Easy Rider Bike Shop
Taylor, MI
(313)374-RIDE

Fraser Schwinn Cycling & Fitness
Fraser, MI
(810)294-4070

Grand Blanc Cyclery
Flint, MI
(810)694-2811

Great Lakes Cycling & Fitness
Ann Arbor, MI
(313)668-6484

Highwheeler Of West Michigan
Holland, MI
(616)396-6084

Holt Pro Cyclery
Holt, MI
(517)694-6702

House Of Wheels
Owosso, MI
(517)725-8373

Kinetic Systems
Clarkston, MI
(810)625-7000

Livonia Bicycle & Fitness Ctr.
Livonia, MI
(810)476-1818

MGM Bicycle
Birmingham, MI
(810)644-9181

MGM Bicycle And Fitness, Inc.
Saint Clair Shores, MI
(810)777-0357

MGM Bicycle Fitness Equipment
Plymouth, MI
(313)453-2233

Motorless Motion
Mount Pleasant, MI
(517)772-2008

Mountain Man Ski Shop
Toledo, OH
(419)536-0001

NorthKent Schwinn
Grand Rapids, MI
(616)363-0705

On 2 Wheels
Jackson, MI
(517)789-6077

Pavlat's Two Wheel Authority
Royal Oak, MI
(810)542-7182

Have You Found Your Dealer Yet?

Please Note: In our continuing Dealer Membership Drive we have received some new dealer support and they will be noted in the next (Continued Next Page) BRB. Bold lettering denotes special contributions and/or promotions for MMBA members - Thank You very much!

(Shop/Manufacturers cont.)

Prestige Cycles
Clinton Township, MI
(810)792-4040

Progressive Bicycles
Grand Rapids, MI
(616)364-3100

Ray's Bike Shop
Midland, MI
(517)835-1691

Riverfront Cycle, Inc.
Lansing, MI
(517)482-8585

The Speed Merchants
Rockford, MI
(616)866-2226

Stoney Creek Schwinn Cycling & Fit.
Washington, MI
(810)781-4451

Surf, Skate, & Wheel
Bay City, MI
(517)686-8088

Terry's Cycle & Sports
Alma, MI
(517)463-5260

Tom Nell Bicycles, Ltd.
Waterford, MI
(810)682-5456

Trailhead Bike Shop
Ludington, MI
(616)845-0545

Tri-City Bicycle HQ
Midland, MI
(517)496-2810

Velocipede Peddler
East Lansing, MI
(517)351-7240

The Village Bike & Ski Shop
Jenison, MI
(616)455-4870

Village Cyclery
Pinckney, MI
(313)878-0117

RACE PROMOTERS

=====

Amanick Promotions
Waterford, MI
(810)673-8531

Butterworth Hospital
Heart & Vascular Network
Grand Rapids, MI

Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival
Cable, WI
(715)798-3811

Fun Promotions, Inc.
Grand Rapids, MI
(616)363-6552

Garland Resort
Lewiston, MI
(517)786-2211

Iceman Promotions
Acme, MI
(616)941-7044

Oakland County Parks & Rec.
Waterford, MI
(810)858-0720

Shanty Creek Resort
Bellaire, MI
(800)678-4111

Sleeping Bear Race Promotions, Inc.
Traverse City, MI
(616)947-4274

OTHER BUSINESSES

=====

Bobcat Marketing
Los Gatos, CA
(408)395-1948

Sherri Burford - Therapeutic Massage
Grand Rapids, MI
(616)791-7552

Cherry Capital Cycling Club
Traverse City, MI
(616)941-BIKE

Eye On The Earth
Belmont, MI
(616)784-9327

Maple Lane Florist
Clawson, MI
(810)585-0775

Nuke Proof Industries, Inc.
Ada, MI
(616)676-2400

RIDE
Chicago, IL
(312)853-2828

Searchmont Resort
Sault Sainte Marie, ONT
(800)461-0800

Slingshot Bicycle Co.
Grand Rapids, MI
(616)530-5556

Sun/Sky/Wind
Central Lake, MI
(800)424-5297

Terrace Place Rest. / Shooters Bar
Dexter, MI
(313)426-1600

Wisconsin Off-Road Bicycling Assoc.
Madison, WI
(608)251-4911

ZZ Underwater World
Lansing, MI
(517)485-3894

Thank You!

BOLD LETTERED SHOPS AND/OR MANUFACTURERS MAY OFFER A 10% DISCOUNT TO CARD CARRYING MMBA MEMBERS. YOU RECEIVED A LIST OF THE 10% MEMBERS WHEN YOU JOINED AND/OR WILL RENEW MEMBERSHIP THIS YEAR. IF YOUR SHOP/MANUFACTURER WOULD LIKE TO BECOME AN MMBA 10% MEMBER IN ADDITION TO BEING A PROUD SHOP/MANUFACTURER MEMBER OF THE MMBA JUST CALL 616-785-0120 FOR MORE INFORMATION. A REMINDER TO ALL MMBA MEMBERS: ALL THE SHOPS/MANUFACTURERS ON THIS PAGE ARE SPECIAL. THEY SUPPORT YOUR EFFORTS ON THE TRAIL AND IN THE MMBA POINTS SERIES. THEY DESERVE YOUR

PATRONAGE!!!!!!

PROUD LAKE:

Bud Pell of the Southeast Chapter of the MMBA is working on another new trail. Yes, another one. Bud has been instrumental, if not mostly responsible, for designing the trails at Maybery and Ionia at the direction of the Michigan DNR State Park managers of these areas. Bud has also been involved with Bald Mountain, Island Lake and other DNR Park/Recreation areas. If someone could do all this work alone it would be Bud, however, he cannot and needs your help with another trail requested by the M-DNR - Proud Lake.

Proud Lake will be a complete beginners area, along with a handicap accessible portion of trail. Proud Lake is to be designed as a trail for everyone. The hills and turns are being designed with beginners in mind. The goal of the trail will be to get those who have never enjoyed a wooded bicycle trail ride, out there and involved in mountain biking without intimidating them. The trail will be advantageous to those with families and goals of just getting out into the woods without going on a major quest of testing bicycle handling skills and aerobic thresholds.

The Southeast Chapter of the MMBA and Bud need your help. Especially if you are new to the recreation of mountain biking. The goal of those who work on the trail for the DNR will be to make it user friendly. To help call Bud Pell: 313-421-5341 or Chris Delridge: 810-542-4236.

Pine Haven Recreation Area - Northeast Chapter

A maintenance day at Pine Haven Recreation Area of Midland County went well. We repaired several areas of the trail. We installed two culverts and repaired another. Other repairs included laying a mixture of *Geoweb*, wood-

chips, and gravel on numerous sections of trail, as well as removing a beaver dam that was diverting water flow onto the trail. Around 12-15 hard working people showed up and we were done in approximately five hours. See you in the spring! *Janson Hatton*

Chapter Chatter...



Please give one day to the trails-Photo By Beth Miller Western Chapt.

Two Cool New Trails:

Check them out and
then tell the MMBA what you think:

Ionia Recreation Area: Exit 64 off I 96 between Grand Rapids and Lansing (follow signs) - 2880- David Highway in Ionia. Trail maps available from Park Ranger - trail is well marked. Trail length - 6 miles. Multi-use trail. Technical when you ride it at speed. Moderate terrain both forests and fields. Ride it then share it with us.

Lawless Park: Off of M-60 between Three Rivers and Cassopolis in Cass county (follow signs from M-60 to park.) Trail well marked, no map needed. Trail length 10.5 miles. Very technical when you ride it at speed. Terrain moderate mostly in forests. Tell us about your ride.

Get one (1) (Uno) (the lonely number) (single) member to join the MMBA - Slap your name on the app - mail it to the MMBA via-the P.O. Box 29 Belmont 49306 address for this promotion and you get one **free prize:** Cool Tool/Sunglasses/Cannondale Seat Pack or a Trak Pak! See page 6!

How does 46 miles (mostly single-track) in the Udell Hills Sound?

Update by D. Abramowski

The Manistee Ranger District is developing possible alternative mountain biking sites in the Huron/Manistee National Forest. One of these "Selected Alternatives" would be for the Big M Cross Country Ski Area in the Udell Hills section of the Manistee/Huron National Forest. The total mileage of the proposed mountain bike trail system within the area would be approximately 46 miles. As a representative of the MMBA, I had the good fortune of scoping out portions of this trail with Outdoor Recreation Planner, Teresa Maday, this past summer. As it stands right now, the trail is likely to be mostly single-track traversing the hills and valleys to the south of M-55 between M-37 and Manistee. The terrain is awesome on the fun and beauty meters. The time line for when the trail will be possibly open is up to

the National Forest Service, and of course, you.

Trails are not put in or maintained by themselves. The Forest Service can commit only a limited amount of time to trail development and maintenance as hunting, fishing, forestry and environmental protection (just a few of the dozens of Forest Service responsibilities) take up an unbelievable amount of time. Again, if you were involved in this trail development activity you would be riding in a lot less time. So, contact:

The Manistee Ranger District
Teresa Maday/Outdoor Recreation
Planner

1658 Manistee Hwy.
Manistee MI, 9660
616-723-2211

or the MMBA at 616-78-0120

3.9 Million Acres - About 600 Miles Of Trails (Pathways)

No, not in Alaska,
Montana or Timbucktoo -
3.9 million acres right here
in Michigan.

And guess what?

Most all of it is open to hiking and biking.

Michigan has 6 state forests: Copper Country State Forest, Escanaba River State Forest and Lake Superior State Forest in the Upper Peninsula. In the Lower Peninsula they are Mackinaw State Forest, Pere Marquette State Forest and the Ausable State Forest. The State Forest lands cover 3,900,000 acres on the Upper and Northern Lower Peninsulas and within those forests there are about 600 miles of hiking,

**Send the BRB a story
about a ride on a State
Forest Pathway for the
next BRB and you'll win
a Cool Tool and a
Cannondale Seat Pack.**

It must be a legal State Forest Pathway. Mail your words to the BRB, P.O. Box 29 Belmont MI 49306 before December 1, 1995.

If more than one story is submitted then the ed. of the BRB will consult with his "900 Psychic Line" to make a choice of the winning ride. The choice is final, so make the ride fun! Void where prohibited, relatives of Prince Charles are not eligible, not responsible for leisure suits or mutant runaway small animals found in un-used water-bottles...
Look before you drink.

cross country skiing and mountain biking Pathways (single-track, two-track, etc. trails). Other opportunities include 5,200 miles of snowmobile trails, 2,500 miles of designated ORV trails, 500 miles of Great Lake Shoreline, 150 campgrounds/3,000 campsites, 300 miles of Equestrian Trails and 7,000 miles of Canoeable Streams.

Of course, you knew that.

But in case you're still a little foggy on all the details or happen to forget where some of the trail-heads are for the 600 miles of hiking, cross-country skiing and mountain biking pathways, I have a few numbers for you.

For information on the State Forests and the pathway trail-heads and address and numbers of each of the State Forests and other general information contact:

**State Forest Recreation & Trails
Forest Management Division
M-DNR
P.O. Box 30452
Lansing MI 48909-7952
Phone - 517-373-1275**

Your chapter presidents have a pamphlet that lists all the pathways* open to mountain biking at this time, so contact them. Their numbers are on page three (3).

*Jordan River Pathway and the Mason Tract Pathway are not open to mountain biking at this time.

**Support the Recreation
2000 State Forest Initiative and you will be supporting 3.9 million acres of forest enjoyment - for more info on the Forest Recreation 2000 Initiative see the article on this page...**

To order new MMBA stickers for your bike or car
- either renew your membership or if you're a
current member you can send \$1.00 to: MMBA
Stickers

P.O. Box 29 Belmont MI 49306

(make \$1.00 check/money order payable to MMBA-to cover cost of printing
new stickers for those who have already joining this year and have old stickers)

**CHECK THIS OUT!
FULL SUSPENSION
BIKES
-READY TO RIDE-
AT GREAT PRICES**

Please note: Due to publication complications at the state level (read: short of cash for a while) the MMBA Update was cancelled and the BRB is late coming out. All prices and stock were current and available and prices were correct for the period that this ad was meant to run. Please support Denny's and Central Park bicycle shops, and all MMBA dealers, there is one near you and they are helping to keep your trails open. Thank you.

Central Park BICYCLES
OKEMOS
517-349-8880
Denny's
CYCLING AND FITNESS
LANSING - EAST LANSING
517-351-2000

PROFLEX

856 "New"	18"	Purple	\$1899
Animal	16"	Red	\$2099 now \$1799
855	16"	Red	\$1699
755 "World Cup Frame"	18"	Blue	\$1499
755 Standard Frame	18"	Blue	\$1399 now \$1199
555	18"	Burgundy	\$ 999 now \$ 899
455	16,18,20"	Red	\$ 799 now \$ 729

CANNONDALE

Super V 2000 94	19"	Black	\$2649 now \$2149
Super V 1000 95	19"	Polished	\$2099 now \$1899
Super V 900 94	19"	Red	\$1699 now \$1499
Super V 900 95	17"	Green	\$1519 now \$1399
Super V 700 95	17"	Red	\$1299 now \$1149

SPECIALIZED

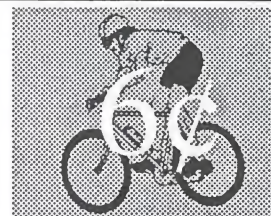
Stumpjumper 94	18, 19, 21.5"	Grey	\$1799 now \$1399
Stumpjumper FSR			
Sport 95	18,19, 20, 21.5"	Black	\$1199now \$ 999

Please Call For Location and Information

Home of Denny's Central Park Racing"

Exercise: Any Is Much Better Than None

It's now common knowledge that exercise can help reduce a person's risk of heart disease, osteoporosis and a host of other illnesses. But until recently, we've also thought that unless you exercise regularly and for at least 20 minutes, you might as well not bother. But two recent studies from Harvard University and the Cooper Institute for Aerobic Research suggest that even light exercise and activity may substantially decrease mortality rates. In both studies the death rate decreased as fitness increased. And in both studies, the sharpest drop in mortality occurred between the most unfit volunteers and those just slightly more active. In the Cooper Institute study, mortality dropped 50-60 percent between the two groups. Gardening, a stroll to the supermarket, a leisurely bike ride- all are activities that can add up to lower blood pressure, stronger bones, and reduce stress. *Source American Health*



For 6 cents a day you can ride the finest bike on the finest trails anywhere in the country. If you're on a trail in Michigan, chances are it has been affected by MMBA volunteers. Those who work on the trails need your thanks and your support. If you join the MMBA and then give one day a year to trail maintenance then you've said thank you and shown your support, in fact then someone else will owe you one!

Now ride.....



ALL MMBA MEMBER SHOPS HAVE A
CURRENT STANDINGS LIST OF THE
MMBA CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS SERIES.
TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU ARE IN THE
POINTS SERIES RACE JUST STOP IN.
YOUR NEAREST MMBA MEMBER SHOP IS
LISTED ON PAGE 12 & 13.
STOP IN TODAY!!!

Recent Studies show that home buyers increasingly

want plenty of natural areas and open space, as well as walkways and bike pathways. Community designs that include "lots of natural, open space" ranked first among features buyers said were "important" in a poll of 800 consumers who bought or shopped for a home in planned communities in several states. Low traffic and quiet tied for number one. Walkways and bike paths ranked second, well ahead of traditional favorites such as tennis courts, golf courses and swimming pools. The setting aside of substantial wooded acreage with the flora and fauna that existed before the development was considered a high value feature for which home buyer would pay premium prices. Source North Country Trail Newsletter August-September 1995.



If you stopped by the MMBA Booth At the NORBA event at Schuss/Shanty Creek you had a chance to sign up (for free) to win some cool prizes: Cool Tools/Sunglasses/Trak Paks/MMBA T-Shirts and more...The winners are:

Pet Golden - Goshen IN
Heather Adle - Elk Rapids MI
Linda Martin - West Bloomfield MI
Chris Halverson - Sheboygan WI
Matt Nikkinen - Sault Ste. Marie ONT
Jamie Eaton - Schoolcraft MI
Ken Weaver - Traverse City MI
Brian Magnus - Saginaw MI
Doug Cole - Traverse City MI
Samuel Simmonds - Mancelona MI
Stu Stuber - Ossineke MI

Congratulations! Look for the MMBA booth/table for more info and prizes at selected event sites in 95 and 96. For more information call 616-785-0120.

Thank You Anita Lynn Bergen

Lynn Bergen, form the Mid-Michigan Chapter, has served as our State Board Secretary for the last several years. It is one of the toughest jobs on the Board and often gets little recognition. Lynn's performance in this position has been nothing short of fantastic and every MMBA member owes Lynn a debt of gratitude for her work in keeping the MMBA organized. Lynn contributed to the betterment of the MMBA in many ways with her thoughts and ideas that have help make the MMBA a better organization. Lynn will be leaving in November, she and her husband will take new career positions in the Southern U.S.

Lynn's huge secretary pedals are being filled by Joan Orman of the Southwestern chapter, Joan has been secretary of the that chapter for the last several years and has done an excellent job there. Indications are she'll do the same at the state level! Welcome Joan!

**Good Luck Lynn and Thank You -
From the MMBA!**

Dirty Notes (and E-Mail...)

MMBA

Dear Dwain Abramowski,

As the use of trails increase by both bikes and pedestrians, (thanks to the current boom of outdoor sports) we need to be more aware of trail events and to avoid conflict. I want to thank the MMBA for posting information at the Potawatomi trail in regards to the Running Fit Trail Marathon (95). I Especially want to thank those who volunteered their time to sit at the park gate on race day, diverting bikers to alternative trails.

I am putting your name on the club roster of Dirt Runners. Dirt Runners is a club, actually a forum, of trail runners throughout Michigan. I am sure we share some members. The purpose of the club is to increase awareness of trail events and ideal trails to run...[included in this letter was some info on an event in September]

Sincerely,
Randy Step
141 E. Main
Northville, MI

President Founder of Dirt Runners, Dances With Dirt and the Running Fit Trail Marathon.

ed.note-This letter serves to remind all of us. that the trails we all love are loved by many different outdoor enthusiasts. The success and health of any trail is dependent on the cooperation, courtesy and maintenance efforts of all who use the trails.

Wisconsin:

"Devil's Head Ski Area spokesman, Peter Kenworthy says, "We have seen the explosive growth locally, in Dane county, where mountain bike sales have surpassed ski sales for the first time, and the number of bikes on the road is greater than the number of cars." According to Andy Swartz, President of Wisconsin Off-Road Bicycling Association, (WORBA): "The entire southern half of Wisconsin and the metropolitan Chicagoland areas are suffering from severe shortage of mountain biking opportunities. The combination of, the shortage of places to ride, along with the explosive growth in the sport, creates frustration for riders...Devil's Head, with its vision for the future, is harnessing the momentum of the mountain biking industry, by pro-actively anticipating what the mountain biking community needs." Tommy Waldbillig-Devil's Head Ski Area.

Classified Ads

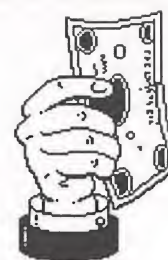
Classified Ads are Free to MMBA Members: You reach over 2000 readers in the Michigan area to find a market for those hard to sell/find items. Send you classified ad to the BRB P.O. Box 29, Belmont MI 49306 for the winter issue. Also check out our bike and parts swap/sale at the annual meeting in February. Get your stuff ready to buy and sell! For info contact MMBA at 616-785-0120.

Brand New 1995 GT Psyclone Frame - Has never been on the trail. \$700.00 or best offer - Extras also available.
Call: Todd 517 -895-2300 (day) 517-345-4523(evenings)

1994 Cannondale Super V900, 17" Full suspension mountain bike, Dia Comp 986 brakes, Gripshift shifters, Shimano STX front derailleur, Shimano Deore LX rear derailleur, Blackburn water bottle cages, excellent condition, \$1200, ask for Steve 517-669-1913

Run For Your Lives It's The Fine Print!

Because the BRB is so dependent on donations to the MMBA and information from outside sources (parks, land managers, other volunteer organizations, etc.) Your free classified ad benefits you most if you have something that has been hard to sell. Something that you know someone wants if you could contact 2000 people or so, instead of just your friends and neighbors. This is where the BRB can help you out. It comes out 4 times a year and is not only sent to the membership (around 1,300+ people) but to all bike shops, numerous land managers, bike industry persons and other interested parties, all total about 1,700 to 2,000 issues per-printing. The next BRB (funding and info pending) will come out in December 95....send us your ad.



**Sell It Buy It
Right Here!**



Yea, you say you're cool...But can you ride muddy trails the right way? Don't be some sort of fat boy, all right? Give the trails a break this fall and ride straight through the mud and not around it! Trails just don't happen. They are there because someone cares and that's cool.
Are you?

Dirt Talk:

Get your opinions dirty here.

Send the BRB your views - Like the trail, I am sure the views will cover everything from the mud to the beauty of the setting sun - and that is what mountain biking is all about, isn't it?

Opinion: If you're talking dirt, you're talking volunteers. They are the glue that keeps this mountain biking thing rolling down the trail. Without them, there would be no mountain biking. Period.

But as much as the volunteers do, their efforts need one more thing otherwise they might as well be moving mountains with teaspoons and that is support of their efforts with resources from the bicycle industry. Now, if you've just joined the ranks of mountain biking you may not know this, if you have been around you know it all too well - support of the volunteer efforts from the bicycle industry has amounted to about 2 teaspoons full of dirt.

Other than the shops listed on pages 12 and 13 and a few industry leaders such as Specialized, Trek, Cannondale, Answer and now SRAM (GripShift), the bicycle industry support for Michigan volunteers who actually get their hands dirty working on the trails has been dismal at best.

Between a handful of bike shops, about 50 to 60 of the 275 in Michigan, and the "call me later I've got too much whining to do" attitude (other than the ones listed above) of the bike industry, there has been surprising source of continued and committed support for all those who keep every public trail open in Michigan, and that is the support of Race Promoters.

Fun Promotions lead the way a few years back by donating a \$1.00 per rider to the MMBA for trail development, racer recognition and MMBA projects. Now virtually all the promoters in the MMBA Championship Points Series have given financial resources to the MMBA (see the list on page 12-13) and that has let the MMBA get the word out to land managers and parks in the state, that the MMBA volunteers are more than a good idea, but an organization of action. Over the last several years the support from promoters has been several thousands of dollars and has exceeded the support of those who make the bikes we ride. The promoters in our state can't do it alone. The support they give is one of main lifelines of the MMBA after the support of our membership. **It is this writers opinion**, that the bicycle industry could benefit from looking at the "R&D on volunteers", so to speak, that the race promoters have done to keep mountain biking healthy in our state. The bicycle industry (like the promoters) should give something back to those who work the hardest for them - volunteers.

If the bicycle industry gave just a nickel or a dime per bike sold of support, to the states that have legitimate non-profit mountain biking organizations, trails would be getting better, not worse, due to the growing number of people who enjoy them. The success of mountain biking and trail use is what outdoor recreation is all about. On the other hand, if the bicycle industry does not want to take some real and concrete responsibility for that success then perhaps they should try selling door knockers - because they'll need them to get the attention of the land managers after the popularity of their livelihood, mountain bikes, becomes too much for a handful of volunteers, bike shops, promoters and land managers to handle. I guess you could leave it to the government. Yea, right, when was the last time you said, "Boy, am I glad the government is involved with that...."

I hear industry persons complain about not making money so they can't help us. To them I say, hey, get out of the business. You're in business and you don't need to lose money. If you can't make money selling bicycles then sell something else - make money and support your customers whoever they are. Don't tell me it can't be done, because I see it happen every trail maintenance day. **The volunteers are there, working full time jobs, raising families, supporting the bike shops, promoters and industry by buying your products, joining the MMBA and then finding time to help out on the trails. If you can't contribute to this effort then please get out of the business and let someone in who can.**

You won't grow rich by helping out trail volunteers, but you'll most like stay in business. Because without trails, sooner or later you might as well be trying to sell boat docks to desert dwellers. Because if the support for volunteers dries up so will your sales.

Yes, everyone may yell at the executive director now. I don't often editorialize in the BRB, but sometimes I've just got to get things off my chest, so that I can breathe again - and you know breathing is really is important if you're going to ride or continue to work on the trails....Thanks Dwain.


Trail Atlas of Michigan* By Dennis R. Hansen
PRICE GOOD ONLY FOR CURRENT MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION MEMBERS!
 Send \$25.39 (Includes tax and handling) to:
 Hansen Publishing Company, 1801 Birchwood Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PLEASE PRINT!!!!

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

DATE: _____ Phone () _____

MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION CHAPTER _____
 *MMBA price good for only one copy of Atlas: Remit \$25.39 Non-MMBA Price \$28.57 (save over \$3.00 plus \$2.00 per MMBA member book sold will be donated to the MMBA)

Renewal Date: _____



Dennis R Hansen, author of the *Michigan Cross Country Skiing Atlas* and *Michigan Trail Atlas*, and President of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the MMBA is offering a deal to MMBA members:

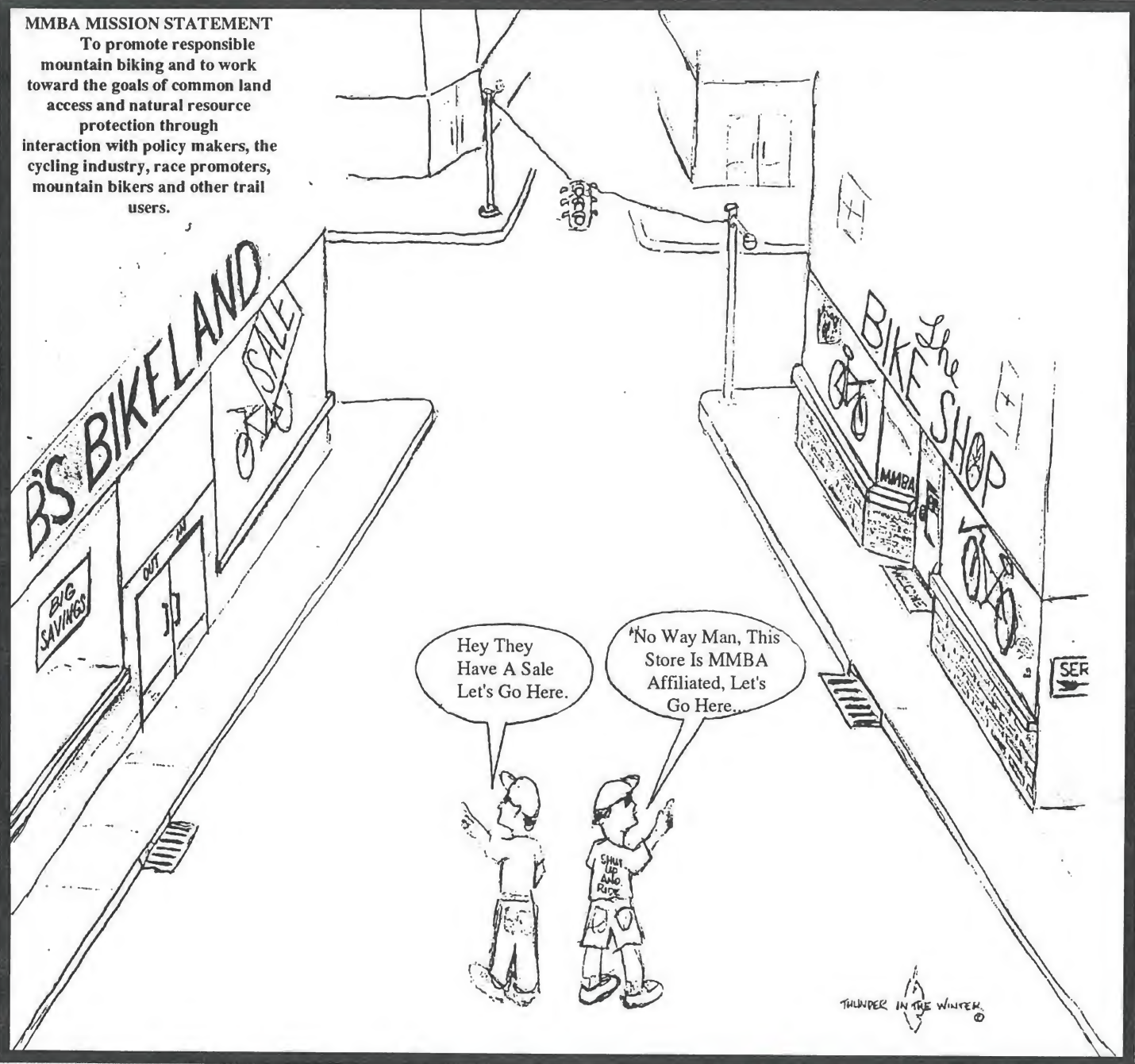
Trail Atlas of Michigan

Hiking, Cross Country Skiing, Mountain Biking, Nature Trails -

With over 530 trails included in this 600 page atlas, every corner of Michigan is covered. Retail Price(Tax&S&H): \$28.57 **THE GOOD NEWS:** MMBA MEMBERS get a 10% discount with no shipping /handling charge, making the book \$25.39 and \$2.00 per copy of the MMBA member price is donated back to the MMBA for trail related activities! This is the definitive book on trails.

MMBA MISSION STATEMENT

To promote responsible mountain biking and to work toward the goals of common land access and natural resource protection through interaction with policy makers, the cycling industry, race promoters, mountain bikers and other trail users.



MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION
2528 Elizabeth Lk. Rd.
Waterford, MI 48328

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"The Truth Requires Very Few Words." Native American Saying

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